

Practitioner's Docket No. MPI00-133M**REMARKS**

Applicants thank the Examiner for her helpful comments during the telephonic interview held on June 17, 2004. As agreed during the interview, Applicants file herewith an amendment to the claims.

Claims 53-72 are pending in the application, claims 53, 56-57 and 60 have amended. Claims 53 and 56-57 have been amended, as discussed with the Examiner, to: i) remove the term "allelic"; ii) remove reference to nucleic acid molecules that are 95% identical to the SEQ ID NO:1 or nucleotides 7-4545 of SEQ ID NO:1; and iii) to specify nucleic acids that encode MEKK1 variants that are at least 98% identical to the entire length of SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 60 was amended to clarify the recitation of the method of producing polypeptides using the claimed inventions.

No new matter is introduced by way of these amendments.

In view of the amendments and remarks herein, Applicants respectfully submit that the objections and rejections presented by the Examiner are now overcome and that this application is in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited.

It is believed this paper is being filed timely as a one-month extension of time is filed concurrently herewith. No additional extensions of time are required. In the event any additional extensions of time are necessary, the undersigned hereby authorizes the requisite fees to be charged to Deposit Account No. 501668.

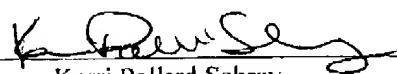
Entry of the remarks made herein is respectfully requested.

June 17, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

MILLENNIUM PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.

By



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